

WHOLESALE AND SPECULATIVE TRADES GIVE WAY TO THE HOLIDAY BUSINESS

Scarcity of Water in Pittsburg
District Affects All Great
Interests.

New York, Dec. 23.—R. G. Dan & Co.'s
weekly review of trade to-morrow will say:

Demand for holiday goods has exceeded expectations, but trade in staple merchandise is unusually quiet. Business conditions are satisfactory, however, manufacturing plants producing freely, except those insufficient water supply restricts operations, and a large volume of option trading was recorded for the week at the leading commodity exchanges.

Disruptions from the leading cities are encouraging. Traffic returns continue favorable. Railroad earnings for December thus far exceed last year's by 7.5 per cent. Foreign commerce at this port during the last week showed an increase of \$1,412,280 in exports, and \$2,065,000 in imports, as compared with the same week in 1903. Lack of water in the Cincinnati region is the only disturbing factor affecting the iron and steel industry. Coal output and transportation are both satisfactory in consequence, and steel is being made at the rate of 1,000,000 tons a week. The supply of fuel becomes exhausted at the blast furnaces. Instead of having an excess of fuel, the industry, as was at first hoped, is producing at a normal rate. The steel market is more active than in the latter part of the year, and the price of steel is being maintained. The steel market is more active than in the latter part of the year, and the price of steel is being maintained. The steel market is more active than in the latter part of the year, and the price of steel is being maintained.

PAT SHEEDY TO BECOME AUTHOR

Gambler Says He Will Write
Book Dealing With Corrupt
Politics.

FRIEND OF THOMAS W. LAWSON

Takes an Interest in Missouri Sen-
atorship Contest — Talks
About Suit Against
Kerens.

Patrick P. Sheedy, the gambler, will soon forsake the various games of chance, of which he has made a specialty, to become an author.

Sheedy is known the world over. He has handled prize fights, followed the races, conducted sporting clubs, backed foot racers, followed baseball more or less and has an international reputation as an art connoisseur and philosopher.

Sheedy is a personal friend of Thomas W. Lawson, whose "Frenzied Finance" has created a furor in Wall street, and, inspired by Lawson's success, Sheedy purports to follow the path to literary fame.

"I don't know enough about finance," said Sheedy at the Southern Hotel last evening, "to deal with that subject, but I shall deal with 'weathers' and politicians. That our political system is rotten is shown when a man can buy almost any position he desires. I have been associated with politicians more or less in my life, and I know the game better than they. For I learned what I know at the 'School of Experience'."

"Lawson has gone after the gang on Wall street the right way. He has put them on the run, and the people can see just what the conditions are. It is the biggest success in the world, though the men are called 'brokers,' while I who make my living on games of chance, am called a gambler. There is a distinction without a difference."

"And politics is just as corrupt as Wall street, only there are no men to be seen. I have been in the public on the subject as Lawson has on the financial question."

GOING TO CALIFORNIA.
Sheedy is going to California when he leaves St. Louis, and probably will spend the winter there. When Lawson has finished with the Wall street gamblers then I will furnish the same publication with a series of articles on corrupt politics. I will have ample material to work on, and believe I can interest the people for a time at least. Another subject I will deal with will be the man who pledges his word in making a wager, then refuses to pay."

Sheedy is here to supervise the shipment of his art collection, which was exhibited at the World's Fair, to Chicago, and when this has been done he will depart for California.

Sheedy will probably be here a week or ten days. He had a conference with his lawyer yesterday in the Vincent Kerens case, which will come up for trial some time in February. When Sheedy came to St. Louis he was under the impression the case was set for January, and expected to remain here for the trial.

"I have not been sworn as a witness," said he, "but I guess I will go on the stand in this case. I have tried to settle it out of the courts, but Kerens, supported by his father, has refused to pay the money, so I shall fight it. I want the money for the case I win the case, as I have previously stated, give it to the Little Sisters of the Poor. If Kerens wants to settle the case without trial he can do so by sending the amount for which I hold his note to that institution, one of the most worthy in the world."

"When I first came to St. Louis to see Vincent Kerens about this note, it was my intention to give it to him, then if he felt so disposed he could refund the money I paid for it. When I went to the office to see him I was introduced to his father,

Transportation is in Enormous
Volume, and Exceeds
Capacity.

New York, Dec. 23.—Bradstreet's to-mor-
row will say:

Holiday trade and retail business generally hold the center of the stage, speculative business and speculation in stocks and staples getting down.

In some lines of industry, too, seasonal influences make for quiet, but a marked exception is noted in iron and steel, which displays activity and strength, and with further advances on grade and finished products.

On the other hand, the drought in the Upper Allegheny Mountain regions and in New England affects blast-furnace operations, coke production and the output of paper and other mills dependent upon water for power. In the Upper Ohio Valley the low and unsuitable water supply affects railroad operations to some extent. Aside from this single drawback, however, transportation is in enormous volume and over capacity in some industries, notably automobiles.

Railroad business is up to the best of the year, and exceeds all previous records at this time. Net returns indicate present position of the industry about making up for seasonal losses sustained last year.

Coalition of iron and steel is close to the top of the year, and exceeds all previous records at this time. Net returns indicate present position of the industry about making up for seasonal losses sustained last year.

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Business failures in the United States for the week ending December 22 numbered 240, against 220 last week, 240 in the like week in 1903, and 240 in the like week in 1902.

In Canada failures for the week number 27, as against 27 last week and 25 in this week a year ago.

brother and a detective. They tried to unload a 'con' game on me, but as that was one of my specialties I refused to accept. After I had stated my case to Mr. Kerens he insisted on a fight, and I told him if a fight was what he was looking for I would give it to him. I then withdrew my proposition and entered suit.

"Richard Kerens came to me at the hotel after the interview with his father, and promised to bring \$2,500 the next day and take up the note, but he failed to keep his promise."

INTERESTED IN SENATORSHIP.
"You know, I am a bit interested in the Missouri senatorship contest, and one of the first things I learned to-day was that Kerens had thirty-five votes pledged. These are votes that he can rely upon absolutely. It takes forty-seven to secure the nomination, so it seems that he will have a 'look-in' for Senator Cookrell's seat."

"I did not come here at this time to try to influence the contest, and aside from the fact that I hold Vincent Kerens's note for \$2,500, have no interest in either of the candidates. But I like to get into politics and learn a few things sometimes that will be useful in the future."

"After I complete my story on corrupt politics I may determine to make the race for the nomination for President. I presume I will have Lawson as my opponent, and for that reason desire to learn all I can about Missouri politics."

Stationery for Xmas Gifts.
Paper and envelopes in fancy boxes.
Engraved calling cards, Novelties, etc.

100 CALLING CARDS.....\$1.50 and up
BOX WRITING PAPER.....\$1.00 to \$10.00
CHRISTMAS CARDS.....\$1.00 to \$10.00
"1905" CALENDARS.....\$1.00 to \$10.00
MERMOD & JACCARD'S,
Broadway and Locust,
Write for New Illustrated Catalogue.

BRINKMEYER WEEPS
WHILE TESTIFYING

Shows Letter His Little Daughter
Gave to Him, Telling Santa
Claus What She Wanted.

Years came into the eyes of John G. Brinkmeyer yesterday while testifying in Judge Ryan's division of the Circuit Court in the trial of the divorce suit of his wife, Mollie, when he told of a letter his little daughter Juliet had written to Santa Claus and which had been given to him.

The matter was brought out by his explaining how he came to buy articles of a jeweler, who was said to have been friendly to him.

Brinkmeyer exhibited the letter, written by his youngest child, telling Santa Claus what she wanted for Christmas. When he received the letter he said he started to procure the articles which his daughter was expecting Santa to bring her to-night.

He bought some of the presents at the store of the jeweler and brought others else where, he said.

He said that he had been a member of the City Council from 1895 until 1899. He denied that he said that he would loose by the exposure of the Suburban bodice deal, in which he was one of the key holders of a safe deposit box containing money intended for bribery purposes.

He admitted that in some of the trips taken by his family passes were given to him. He said that he took an occasional drink but that he did not drink to excess. He denied that he was charged with his having paid attention to other women.

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MERMOD & JACCARD'S,
BROADWAY AND LOCUST ST.

OPEN THIS EVENING TILL 11 O'CLOCK.

LOWEST-PRICED HOUSE IN
AMERICA FOR FINE GOODS.

XMAS GIFTS

Jewelry, Tableware, Toilet Articles, Novelties, Art Goods, etc.—Beautiful and useful Holiday Gifts—The largest assortment ever shown—The greatest variety—The finest goods.

A Visit to Mermod & Jaccard's Will
Help You to Decide "What" to Buy.

Watches

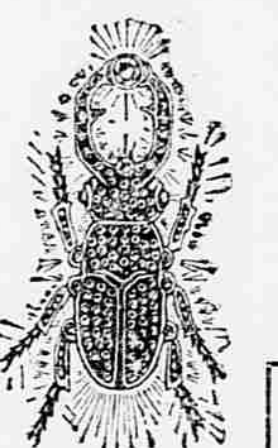
Our reliable Timekeepers—celebrated Mermod & Jaccard's movements, noted for their accuracy, durability, guaranteed perfect timekeepers, in cases of newest designs.



SPECIAL—
Ladies' Watch, Solid 14-karat gold hunting case, richly engraved with a Mermod & Jaccard's movement. Price Only \$18.50
Other Solid Gold Watches for Ladies—
\$18.50 to \$450.00
Solid Gold Watches, set with diamonds, \$35.00 to \$1,675.00

Mail Orders
Receive prompt attention—out-of-town orders for articles in this ad will be filled with the best understanding that if not absolutely satisfactory you may return at our expense and we will refund money.

FINE DIAMOND JEWELRY.



Beetle Brooch.
(As Illustrated).
Solid gold mounting, set with very fine Diamonds, Emeralds and Rubies; a magnificent piece of jewelry.
Price \$650.
Other Brooches from \$25 and up.

A fine gem as were ever found.
Brilliant cut stones, in hand-made mountings of solid gold.
Original and exclusive designs.
Rings from \$75 to \$5,000.
Brooches from \$25 to \$10,000.
Necklaces \$50 to \$25,000.
Lockets \$15, and up to \$530.
Watch Chains \$15, to \$500.
Shirt Studs \$10, to \$3,000.
Cuff Buttons \$10, to \$300.
Collar Buttons \$5, to \$100.
Also other pieces of Jewelry and Novelties, set with choice of precious stones. Great variety—lowest prices.



Diamond Rings.
Price \$45, Price \$75, Price \$150, Price \$85.50, Price \$16, Price \$20.

Watches.

Over 5,000 to choose from—The best watches made—Mermod & Jaccard's movements, in Solid Gold, Solid Silver, Solid Nickel, Gold Filled and Gun Metal Cases.



SPECIAL—Gentlemen's Watch, solid 14-karat gold hunting case—richly illustrated—fitted with our new "Century" jeweled nickel movement. Price \$34.
Other Solid Gold Watches for gentlemen—\$25, to \$500.
Gold Filled Cases, with Mermod & Jaccard's movements, \$12, to \$50.
In Solid Silver Cases, \$7, to \$20.
In Nickel Cases, \$5, to \$20.

MERMOD & JACCARD'S

BROADWAY AND LOCUST STREET.

IMPROVEMENTS WILL COST \$25,000,000

New York Central Perfects Plans
for Terminals and Station in
New York City.

TO COVER NINETEEN BLOCKS.

Will Long Be a Monument to the
Substitution of Electricity for
Steam as Motive Power
for Railroads.

REPUBLIC SPECIAL.

New York, Dec. 23.—Covering an area equal to nineteen city blocks and representing a total expenditure of more than \$25,000,000 when completed, the final plans for the improvements of the terminal facilities and for the new station of the company in Forty-second street have been adopted by the directors of the New York Central and Hudson River Railroad Company.

Plans for this great work were submitted to-day to the Board of Estimate and Apportionment by Ira A. Place, general counsel to the company, for approval by the local authorities.

The execution of the plans will change completely the topographical aspect of the very heart of Manhattan Island and will long be a monument to the substitution of electricity for steam as a means of motive power in moving heavy passenger trains in both a local and a transcontinental system within the limits of large cities.

The station proper, together with the Post Office and express buildings, will cover the blocks between Vanderbilt and Lexington avenues, from Forty-third to Forty-fifth street, inclusive, and the block fronting on Forty-second street between Vanderbilt avenue and Dupuy place.

The suburban trains will be on a lower level than the express trains. The suburban concourse will provide for blue tracks. The express concourse will be below the street level and will provide for twenty-two passenger train tracks, two baggage tracks, two mail tracks and eight express tracks, making forty-three tracks in all, with platforms connected by subway elevators.

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Birthmonth Rings for Gifts.
Solid Gold Rings, set with turquoise, December's birthstone, \$2.25 and up.
Silver Birthmonth Rings, floral design on either side of signet, "Holly" design for December, initial engraved on signet, price \$5.00.

AT MERMOD & JACCARD'S,
Broadway and Locust st.
Open till 11 p. m.

BENJAMIN F. COULTER.
Macon, Mo., Dec. 23.—Benjamin F. Coulter, 64 years old, former representative of Macon County, died at his home near Excelsior this morning. He had lived all his life on the homestead which formed part of the tract entered from the Government by his father.

MRS. MINNIE KATZ.
Marshall, Mo., Dec. 23.—Mrs. Minnie Katz, 28 years old, died in this city yesterday. She was the widow of Henry L. Katz.

"A CHRISTMAS PRAYER," by Pastor CHARLES WAGNER, author of "THE SIMPLE LIFE," will be presented to SUNDAY REPUBLIC readers to-morrow in a full page of color, with rebricated initials and Old English lettering.

CLASS OF 5,000 TO BE INITIATED

St. Louis Pythians Plan "Big
Night" Which Will Break
All Records.

St. Louis members of the Knights of Pythias are preparing to initiate on February 29 the largest class of new members probably ever admitted to a fraternal organization in the country.

From present indications 5,000 candidates will be initiated. The committee in charge of the matter has been at work only a few days but has secured almost a thousand candidates.

The record for the largest "big night" is now held by Kansas City, which last year initiated more than 1,500 new members. The St. Louis committee expect to at least double the Kansas City record.

The Ja Alai building at the Halliway avenue and Kingsbury boulevard has been secured for the ceremony, which will take place on the evening of February 29.

Benjamin W. Dalzell, secretary of the committee, is notifying each of the 25 lodges in Missouri to send down their candidates to St. Louis to make the night a record-breaker.

The committee which has the matter in charge is composed of Cyrus P. Walbridge, chairman, R. P. Williams, William H. Noller, A. E. Fiske, Judge John A. Tully, A. E. Fiske, Mr. Dalzell is secretary, John H. Holmes treasurer and Colonel John L. Martin master at arms.

Pens and Pencils for Xmas Gifts.
Fountain Pens and Fancy Pencils, great variety, lowest prices.
FOUNTAIN PENS.....\$1.00 to \$50.00
FANCY PENCILS.....\$1.00 to \$50.00
TOOTH PICKS.....\$1.00 to \$50.00
Out-of-town orders filled—write for catalogue.

MERMOD & JACCARD'S,
Broadway and Locust.
Open evenings till 11.

ILLINOIS DROUGHT BROKEN.

Heavy Rain Over State Relieves
Alarming Situation.

REPUBLIC SPECIAL.

Bloomington, Ill., Dec. 23.—The four-months' drought in Central Illinois, which was unprecedented, was broken to-night by a heavy rain. Reports from various counties adjoining show that the rain is general.

Great inconvenience has been experienced by farmers in securing water for stock. Cisterns have been dry for weeks, and many wells have given out. The creeks have been dry in most instances since early in November. The rain is of inestimable value.

Optical Goods for Xmas Gifts.
Lowest and Appropriate Gifts.
GOLD SPECTACLES.....\$5.00 to \$12.00
READING GLASSES.....\$5.00 to \$5.00
OPERA GLASSES.....\$5.00 to \$50.00
Optic: optical, contemporary and Road, will test you.

MERMOD & JACCARD'S,
Broadway and Locust st.
Write for Illustrated Catalogue.

CHILDREN AND GROWN FOLK
PLEASANTLY ENTERTAINED.

One of the most enjoyable of the Christmas entertainments was given last night from 8 to 9:45 o'clock at the Grand Avenue Baptist Church, No. 2701 Grand avenue.

THE LINDELL CUT-RATE DRUG STORE.

Open Christmas and
Monday.

PERFUMES FOR
CHRISTMAS.

The Imperial Crown Perfumery Co.,
Awarded Grand Prize at St. Louis World's Fair for their make of high-grade perfumes. We bought their display of their original bottles in fancy boxes.

For three days we will sell these fine goods at 25 to 50 per cent less than regular prices.

CIGARS.

Crestonia (Martinique).
Clear Havana, A. 1st straight box, 25 cigars, Box of 25, \$2.00.
Box of 50, \$2.00.

"La India."

Over 20,000 sold in November at retail by us. Clear Havana, long filler, Havana wrapper, Box of 25, \$1.00. Box of 50, \$2.00.

The Bachelor.

A quality cigar—sweetest package on the market today. Box of 25, \$1.00. Box of 50, \$2.00.

CANDIES.

Louise's (celebrated), Ruled and Allegretto—in fancy holiday packages in 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 12, 15, 20, 25, 30, 40, 50, 60, 70, 80, 90, 100, 120, 150, 200, 250, 300, 400, 500, 600, 700, 800, 900, 1,000, 1,200, 1,500, 2,000, 2,500, 3,000, 4,000, 5,000, 6,000, 7,000, 8,000, 9,000, 10,000, 12,000, 15,000, 20,000, 25,000, 30,000, 40,000, 50,000, 60,000, 70,000, 80,000, 90,000, 100,000, 120,000, 150,000, 200,000, 250,000, 300,000, 400,000, 500,000, 600,000, 700,000, 800,000, 900,000, 1,000,000, 1,200,000, 1,500,000, 2,000,000, 2,500,000, 3,000,000, 4,000,000, 5,000,000, 6,000,000, 7,000,000, 8,000,000, 9,000,000, 10,000,000, 12,000,000, 15,000,000, 20,000,000, 25,000,000, 30,000,000, 40,000,000, 50,000,000, 60,000,000, 70,000,000, 80,000,000, 90,000,000, 100,000,000, 120,000,000, 150,000,000, 200,000,000, 250,000,000, 300,000,000, 400,000,000, 500,000,000, 600,000,000, 700,000,000, 800,000,000, 900,000,000, 1,000,000,000, 1,200,000,000, 1,500,000,000, 2,000,000,000, 2,500,000,000, 3,000,000,000, 4,000,000,000, 5,000,000,000, 6,000,000,000, 7,000,000,000, 8,000,000,000, 9,000,000,000, 10,000,000,000, 12,000,000,000, 15,000,000,000, 20,000,000,000, 25,000,000,000, 30,000,000,000, 40,000,000,000, 50,000,000,000, 60,000,000,000, 70,000,000,000, 80,000,000,000, 90,000,000,000, 100,000,000,000, 120,000,000,000, 150,000,000,000, 200,000,000,000, 250,000,000,000, 300,000,000,000, 400,000,000,000, 500,000,000,000, 600,000,000,000, 700,000,000,000, 800,000,000,000, 900,000,000,000, 1,000,000,000,000, 1,200,000,000,000, 1,500,000,000,000, 2,000,000,000,000, 2,500,000,000,000, 3,000,000,000,000, 4,000,000,000,000, 5,000,000,000,000, 6,000,000,000,000, 7,000,000,000,000, 8,000,000,000,000, 9,000,000,000,000, 10,000,000,000,000, 12,000,000,000,000, 15,000,000,000,000, 20,000,000,000,000, 25,000,000,000,000, 30,000,000,000,000, 40,000,000,000,000, 50,000,000,000,000, 60,000,000,000,000, 70,000,000,000,000, 80,000,000,000,000, 90,000,000,000,000, 100,000,000,000,000, 120,000,000,000,000, 150,000,000,000,000, 200,000,000,000,000, 250,000,000,000,000, 300,000,000,000,000, 400,000,000,000,000, 500,000,000,000,000, 600,000,000,000,000, 700,000,000,000,000, 800,000,000,000,000, 900,000,000,000,000, 1,000,000,000,000,000, 1,200,000,000,000,000, 1,500,000,000,000,000, 2,000,000,000,000,000, 2,500,000,000,000,000, 3,000,000,000,000,000, 4,000,000,000,000,000, 5,000,000,000,000,000, 6,000,000,000,000,000, 7,000,000,000,000,000, 8,000,000,000,000,000, 9,000,000,000,000,000, 10,000,000,000,000,000, 12,000,000,000,000,000, 15,000,000,000,000,000, 20,000,000,000,000,000, 25,000,000,000,000,000, 30,000,000,000,000,000, 40,000,000,000,000,000, 50,000,000,000,000,000, 60,000,000,000,000,000, 70,000,000,000,000,000, 80,000,000,000,000,000, 90,000,000,000,000,000, 100,000,000,000,000,000, 120,000,000,000,000,000, 150,000,000,000,000,000, 200,000,000,000,000,000, 250,000,000,000,000,000, 300,000,000,000,000,000, 400,000,000,000,000,000, 500,000,000,000,000,000, 600,000,000,000,000,000, 700,000,000,000,000,000, 800,000,000,000,000,000, 900,000,000,000,000,000, 1,000,000,000,000,000,000, 1,200,000,000,000,000,000, 1,500,000,000,000,000,000, 2,000,000,000,000,000,000, 2,500,000,000,000,000,000, 3,000,000,000,000,000,000, 4,000,000,000,000,000,000, 5,000,000,000,000,000,000, 6,000,000,000,000,000,000, 7,000,000,000,000,000,000, 8,000,000,000,000,000,000, 9,000,000,000,000,000,000, 10,000,000,000,000,000,000, 12,000,000,000,000,000,000, 15,000,000,000,000,000,000, 20,000,000,000,000,000,000, 25,000,000,000,000,000,000, 30,000,000,000,000,000,000, 40,000,000,000,000,000,000, 50,000,000,000,000,000,000, 60,000,000,000,000,000,000, 70,000,000,000,000,000,000, 80,000,000,00